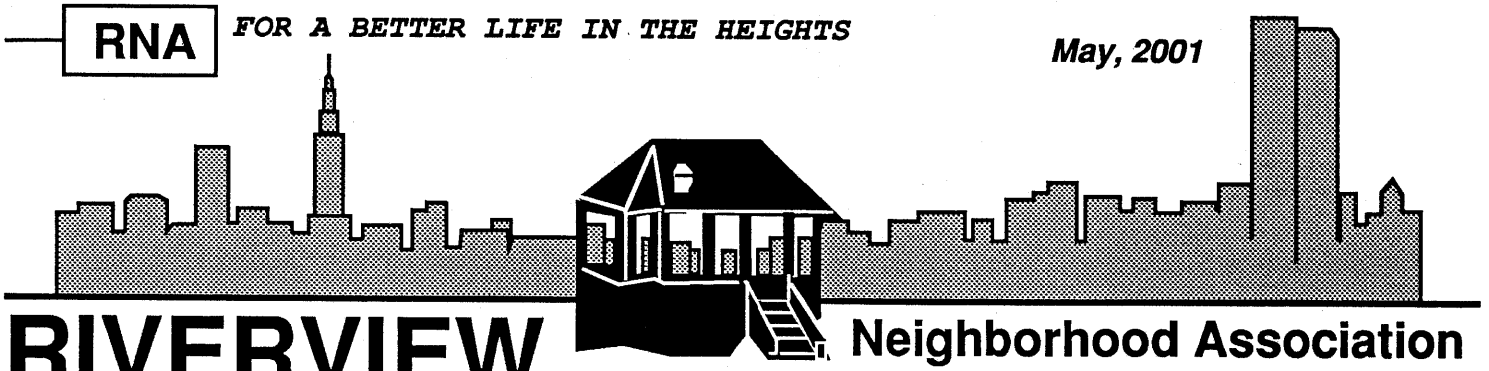
RNA FOR A BETTER LIFE IN THE HEIGHTS

May, 2001



RIVERVIEW Neighborhood Association

232 Ogden Avenue - Jersey City, N.J. 07307 - (201) 798-0493

RNA IS NOT AFFILIATED WITH ANY POLITICAL PARTY, ORGANIZATION OR ELECTED OFFICIAL

SPRINGTIME 2001 SPECIAL EVENTS EDITION

SPRING NEIGHBORHOOD CLEANUP: SATURDAY, MAY 12, 2001

RNA will be sponsoring its Annual Spring Clean-up on **Saturday, May 12th**. So mark your calendar and join us. The day's activities are expected to begin at **8:00 AM** and will initially focus on the cleaning of our two local parks: **Riverview-Fisk Park**, bound by Ogden and Palisade Avenues and **Janet Moore Park** at the corner of Cuneo Place and Ogden Avenue. In addition to the usual symbolic cleaning of the parks, we will also devote effort to removing debris from the cliffs ont eh eastern side of Riverview-Fisk.

In conjunction with the clean-up activities, we have also arranged with the **Jersey City Incinerator Authority** for the placement of two roll-off dumpsters for the disposal of large household and garden debris. As in the past, one

(continued on page 4)

CITY PASSES LEGISLATION TO PROTECT THE PALISADE CLIFFS

On Wednesday evening, **April 11th**, the new **Municipal Land Use Ordinance** (MLUO) came before the **City Council** in its second and final reading. Essentially, the Council would be voting on whether to authorize and put into law a complete restatement of the zoning regulations that would cover approximately 45% of the City. Those sections of the City not covered by the MLUO are those sections of the City covered by one of fifty Redevelopment Plans (i.e.: MLK, Morris Canal, Newport, etc.)

Coming closer to home and of concern to our community; the MLUO also included a section identified as **ARTICLE VI: PALISADES PRESERVATION OVERLAY DISTRICT** (PPOD). The purpose of this section was to provide protection for the Palisades Cliffs in our City from the Union City border, south to Montgomery Avenue. The intention of the PPOD is to prevent over-development along the top of

(continued on page 4)

17th ANNUAL OUTDOOR PARK FAIR & FLEA MARKET SATURDAY, JUNE 2, 2001

Friends, neighbors, park lovers, browers, and flea marketeers! This year RNA will hold its eagerly anticipated springtime event in our neighborhood on **Saturday, June 2th** between the hours of **9:00 am to 4:00 pm** in **Riverview-Fisk Park**. (The raindate is the following Saturday, June 9th). The Activities Committee is planning to expand the scope of our traditional day in the Park by adding crafters to our usual vendors and also food vendors. We are also planning to have music and hopefuly entertainment for the youngsters.

In order to make this all happen successfully, RNA needs you! We need **Volunteers** to organize the details before the event and then more importantly to help out during the day itself with such activities as: setting-up and breaking-down, working the RNA tables and cleaning up during and after the event. If you can give any time on June 2th - even one hour - we hope you will sign up now.

We are also looking for bakers to make homemade

(continued on page 3)

[A Vendor's Contract & more information is on page 2.]

SPRING EVENTS IN OUR COMMUNITY

In addition to the Park Clean-up and Park Fair, the following events will take place in our community within the next month:

* **Tile Installation: *May 5-6 and June 2-3***
* **Community Garden Clean-up: *May 5 &19***
* **Washington Village & Palisade Cliff Walking Tour: *May 13***
* **Holland Str. Clean-up & Planting: *May 19***

See the articles on page 3 for further information.

THE 17TH ANNUAL RNA PARK FAIR/FLEA MARKET
VENDOR CONTRACT

SPONSOR: **RIVERVIEW NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION**

DATE: **SATURDAY, JUNE 2, 2001** (RAINDATE: JUNE 9th)

LOCATION: RIVERVIEW - FISK PARK
Ogden & Palisade Avenues, between Griffith & Bowers Streets,
JERSEY CITY HEIGHTS

TIME: 9:00 AM - 4:00 PM (Dealers may arrive anytime after 7:00 AM.)

MEMBERSHIP RATES: **$15.00 PER SPACE** when paid in advance.
$20.00 PER SPACE when paid on day of event.

RULES:

1) Vendors must supply their own tables and chairs.
2) Position of spaces on day of event will be on a first come, first serve basis.
3) Food can only be sold by authorized food vendors. No vendor will sell anything obscene or illegal. (See registration form below.)
4) **Vendors must clean-up their spaces at the end of the day. Vendors cannot leave unsold or leftover items in the Park.**
5) Vendors will be allowed to unload and load their vehicles at the site, but **auto access to Ogden Avenue will cease at 9:00 AM**.
6) These rules will be strictly enforced by RNA on the day of the event.
7) Reservations must be postmarked no later then **May 28, 2001**.

ADVERTISING: RNA will advertise in the Jersey Journal, the Jersey City Reporter and by posters and flyers.

FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION, CALL: MARIA TUZZO (201) 659-2245.

RIVERVIEW NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION
17TH ANNUAL PARK FAIR & FLEA MARKET
REGISTRATION FORM

DATE: **SATURDAY, JUNE 2, 2001**
TIME: **9 AM TO 4 PM**
PLACE: **RIVERVIEW - FISK PRK**
(RAINDATE: JUNE 9th)

PLEASE RESERVE: _____SPACES AT $15.00 per SPACE.

TOTAL AMOUNT ENCLOSED: $_____.

Name:_____

Address:_____

Telephone No. _____

By participating as a seller in the RNA Park Fair & Flea Market, I agree not to sell any food items, pornographic or obscene material or drug paraphernalia. If I violate this agreement, I will forfeit my right to participate and leave the flea market.

Signature :_____

Make checks payable to RIVERVIEW NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION.
Cut out this application and send to: **MARIA TUZZO**
170 Ogden Avenue Jersey City, NJ 07307

PARK FAIR *(continued from page 1)*

cakes, pies, brownies or cupcakes for the **RNA Coffee Table**. If you have an usable item that you no longer want - that is in decent shape and in working order - consider donating it to the **RNA Table**. We also accept used clothing in good condition.

This year we are going to work with the **Harbor View Health Care Facility** to bring some of their residents to the Park to enjoy the day's festivities. Therefore we are looking for individuals interested in accompanying some of our senior citizens for a few hours through the Park.

This year RNA has commissioned a special community T-Shirt for the event which will be given to all volunteers and then sold separately at a reasonable price.

People interested in volunteering for any of the above activities, should come to the May 8th meeting or call **Maria Tuzzo at 659-2245** between the hours of 10 AM and 7 PM.

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PARK TILE INSTALLATION

As many of you know, during the spring and summer of 2000, children in our community painted hundreds of ceramic tiles to install on the Riverview-Fisk Park overlook guard wall. **Studio Heights** is delighted to announce that the tile installation is about to begin. For this part of the project, we especially need adults in the neighborhood to volunteer to help out.

Everyone is welcome, but children under the age of eight must be accompanied by an adult helper to participate in the installation.

SESSION #1:

SATURDAY, May 5th at 12:00 Noon
&
SUNDAY, May 6th at 12:00 Noon

SESSION #2:

SATURDAY, June 2nd at 12:00 Noon
&
SUNDAY, June 3rd at 12:00 Noon

For more information, please contact:
Beverly Brown Ruggia
at (201) 798-0670
brownruggia@earthlink.net
or
Sandy Martiny
(201) 798-4235
festiny227@aol.com

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RIVERVIEW COMMUNITY GARDEN

The community vegetable and flower garden in Riverview-Fisk Park is now open for the season. Anyone interested in participating should attend the weekly **Thursday night meetings at 6:30 PM**. There is also going to be two days of clean-up on **May 5th and 19th** starting at **11:00 AM**.

WASHINGTON VILLAGE WALKING TOUR

The **Jersey City Landmarks Conservancy** (JCLC) will celebrate National Historic Preservation Week 2001 with historic walking tours throughout Jersey City. On **Sunday, May 13th**, the JCLC will sponsor the **Historical Heights and Palisade Cliff Walking Tour** from 10 AM to 12 PM. The event is being co-sponsored by www.savethepalisades.org.

The tour will start at the Park Pavilion in Riverview-Fisk Park and explore the historic Heights neighborhood of **Washington Village** at the top of the wondrous Palisade cliffs. It will end with a stroll down **Holland Street**, one of Jersey City's last cobblestoned roads.

The week's other tours include:

* Saturday, May 12 (10 AM - 12 Noon)
  Bergen Arches and Erie Cut
* Sunday, May 13 (10 AM to 12 Noon)
  Historic Heights & Palisade Cliff Walking Tour
* Monday, May 14 (7 - 8:30 PM)
  Light Rail Historic Tour
* Tuesday, May 15 (7 - 8:30 PM)
  Harimus Cove Historic District
* Thursday, May 17 (6 - 7 PM)
  JCLC Preservation Awards at the Loew's Theatre
* Friday, May 18 (7 - 8:30 PM)
  Loew's Jersey Theatre
* Saturday, May 19 (12 - 3 PM)
  Historic Bergen District Tour
* Sunday, May 20 (11 AM - 1 PM)
  Central R.R. of N.J. Terminal

For more information, contact the JCLC at **(201) 420-1885** or info@jclandmarks.org.

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HOLLAND STREET CLEAN-UP

On **Saturday, May 19th**, the **Heights Hope Neighborhood Association** will conduct a clean-up of Holland Street, the cobblestoned road adjacent to the north end of Riverview-Fisk Park. The work will begin at 10 AM and end around 4:00 PM. In addition, the group will weed and plant flowers and ornamental ground cover in a small area just off the overlook. Volunteers are needed. For more information, call **Marge Daly** at **(201) 963-6564**.

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PLANT A TREE IN FRONT OF YOUR HOUSE

The **Department of Public Works** is offering to plant trees for property owners again this year. The cost is **$50.00** which includes a sidewalk cut and the planting. Four varieties of trees are available: **Cherry, Zelkova, Pear**, and **Linden**.

Any one interested, should contact the **Division of Parks** at **547-4449**.

SPRING CLEAN-UP *(continued from page 1)*

dumpster will be placed at the north end of our community on **South Street** between Palisade and Ogden and another dumpster on **Griffith Street** also between Palisade and Ogden. You are reminded to limit your use of the dumpsters to household items only. As once the dumpsters are filled, that's it till the fall clean-up.

We hope you will be available to participate in these activities and you will alert your friends and neighbors. If you would like to volunteer to lead a specific activity, please let us know. Our neighbor, **Kevin Mahony** will be coordinating the day's events for the Association. Please call Kevin at **798-4232**, if you have any questions.

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PALISADE CLIFFS *(continued from page 1)*

the cliff in the form of buildings similar to the Doric. At the same time, it is intended that the PPOD would eliminate the possibility of a wall of buildings at the base of the Cliffs and thus blocking the view of the Palisades from below.

As a community, we can be proud that a few dedicated individuals from our neighborhood took the initiative about a year ago to push for a "Steep Slope Ordinance". The concept of a Steep Slope Ordinance had been around for many years. Previous efforts were initiated in the past after both Union City and Weehawken adopted similar arrangements. The Steep Slope Project was reinitiated during the Millennium Towers debacle last Spring. The logic was to be prepared for the next "millennium". Without proper protection, it was envisioned a wall of high-rise buildings would eventually fill the north section of the Jersey Avenue Redevelopment Zone from the base of the cliffs to the Hudson River.

Last summer, an independent Public Planner was retained using funds donated by the community. With the direction of the community, the planner set out to draft an ordinance that was submitted to the City's Planning Department in September. It was hoped, that with minor modification, the proposed ordinance would have been submitted to the Planning Board and eventually the City Council for its approval. Unknown to our community (and all of Jersey City for that matter), the City's Planning Department had been working with outside Consultants to re-write the City's entire Zoning and Land Use Ordinance. A draft of the MLUO first surfaced in late February and included in that document was the "Steep Slope" Article.

It was generally agreed, that the City's initial version of the steep slope section was weak and required some revisions. During early March, **Robert Cotter**, Chief Planner for the City met with our group to review the proposed document and consider some change. While we did not get everything we wanted, some revisions were made to the final draft. It was apparent to all, that the City intended to "fast track" the approval of the MLUO and it was agreed that having the current sitting City Council consider the document was better than having no protection considering the current development pressure at our cliffs.

During the public hearing portion of the Ordinance reading, numerous citizens stood in line to share their thoughts on the MLUO. Of the approximately 150 individuals in the audience, the majority was there to share its support for the **WALDO** overlay district. The WALDO district is the old warehouse section downtown that had been previously set-aside as a Loft District for artist studios. Under the revised WALDO overlay district, habitation will be allowed in the buildings that had previously been designated as "work only". The owners of some of the WALDO buildings and their legal counsel voiced the only objections during the evening.

When the final vote was taken, all nine members of the City Counsel supported the MLUO. As a community, we should be very grateful for the hard work our neighbors put into this effort; especially **Clif Steinbring** and **Doris Conrad Brown** who led the effort. In the interim, this group intends to continue to work with the City's Planning Department to amend deficiencies in the ordinance. In particular, we are hoping to expand the ordinance with respect to the PPOD to include the following:

a) The grade percentage that defines a steep slope.
b) The use of a density reduction table that will correspond to all slopes.
c) Establishment of standards covering "cut and fill", which would place limitations on blasting, embankments and stilts.
d) Establish "view planes" of the Statue of Liberty from public access points such as parks and schools.

During this project, our neighbors **Chris and Cindy Wislet** established a website www.savethepalisades.com. The website has been up and running and the group intends to initially qualify as a Supporting Organization as defined in the tax code and eventually obtain fully tax exempt status as a 501c(3) public charity. This group will take on the non-legislative responsibility of working to protect the Palisades and preserve them as any other natural treasure. It is hoped that the website will act as a clearinghouse for information about the Palisades and events in Jersey City having an impact on the cliffs.

Kevin Mahony

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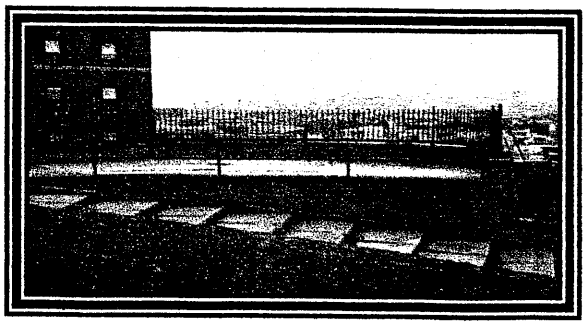
NEW RNA EXECUTIVE OFFICERS

The following individuals were elected unopposed to be RNA's executive officers for the 2001 -2002 term at the April 10th meeting:

Chair:	VITO BRUNETTI
Vice Chair:	DAVID CROWDER
Secretary:	MARIS TUZZO
Treasurer:	TIM GILLIARD
Sgt. at Arms:	JOS. SADOWSKI

RNA would like to acknowledge two of the outgoing officers. As Vice Chair, **Steven Carr** helped organize the community against the midrise development proposed for 122-124 Ogden Avenue. As Sgt-at Arms, **Beth D'Errico** continued to help organize our monthly meetings, the spring activities and the Millennium Towers fundraiser. These individuals were effective and dedicated officers, unselfishly involved in all aspects of RNA. Thank you both for your community service.

STUDIO HEIGHTS



YOUR INVITED TO THE SPRING 2001 FISK-RIVERVIEW TILE WALL INSTALLATION!

AS MANY OF YOU KNOW, DURING THE SPRING AND SUMMER OF 2000, CHILDREN IN OUR COMMUNITY PAINTED HUNDREDS OF CERAMIC TILES TO INSTALL ON THE FISK-RIVERVIEW PARK OVERLOOK GUARD WALL. STUDIO HEIGHTS IS DELIGHTED TO ANNOUNCE THAT THE TILE INSTALLATION IS ABOUT TO BEGIN. FOR THIS PART OF THE PROJECT WE ESPECIALLY NEED THE ADULTS IN THE NEIGHBORHOOD TO HELP OUT. EVERYONE IS WELCOME. BUT CHILDREN UNDER THE AGE OF EIGHT MUST BE ACCOMPANIED BY AN ADULT HELPER TO PARTICIPATE IN THE INSTALLATION.

SESSION #1
SATURDAY, MAY 5 - 12:00 NOON
&
SUNDAY, MAY 6 - 12:00 NOON

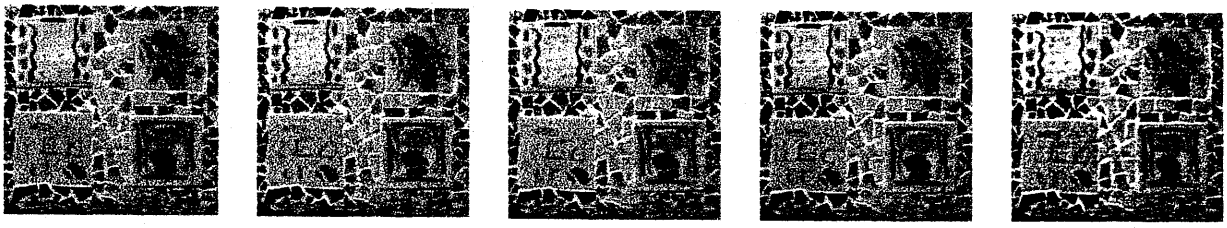
SESSION #2
SATURDAY, JUNE 2 - 12:00 NOON
&
SUNDAY, JUNE 3 - 12:00 NOON

For information or to volunteer please contact:

Beverly Brown Ruggia
Studio Heights
201 798- 0670
brownruggia@earthlink.net

OR

Sandy Martiny
Studio Heights
201 798- 4235
festiny227@aol.com



GET INVOLVED IN YOUR COMMUNITY!
Help organize our spring activities at the
next RNA Meeting on Tuesday, May 8th at 7:00 PM

FOR A BETTER LIFE IN THE HEIGHTS

It's your civic responsibility -
VOTE ON TUESDAY, MAY 8th
for a better quality of life
in our community!

RIVERVIEW NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION
232 OGDEN AVENUE
JERSEY CITY, NEW JERSEY 07307

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07302
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CAR.-RT. PRESORT

RIVERVIEW NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION

COMING EVENTS:

RNA MEETING: Tues., May 8, 7 PM

LOCATION: THE HARBOR VIEW HEALTH CARE CENTER

* Discussion of Spring Activities
* Police NTF Report / NID Update

TILE INSTALLATION:

* Session #1: May 5 and 6, 12 Noon
* Session #2: June 2 and 3, 12 Noon

SPRING CLEAN-UP: Sat., May 12

* Clean-up of Local Parks
* Dumpster Weekend: South & Griffith Strs.

WASHINGTON VILLAGE WALKING TOUR: Sun., May 13, 10 AM

* Palisade Cliffs
* Holland Street

HOLLAND STREET CLEAN-UP: Saturday, May 19, 10 AM

COMMUNITY GARDEN CLEAN-UP:

* Saturdays, May 5 & 19, 11 AM

MAYORAL RUN-OFF DEBATE: Monday, May 21, 7:00 PM

LOCATION: ST. JOSEPH'S HALL
(CORNER of PAVONIA & BALDWIN AVENUES)

SPONSORED by the
HILLTOP NEIGHBORHOOD ASSN. and
HEIGHTS COALITION OF NEIGHBORHOOD
& BLOCK ASSNS.